Board of Pharmacy Guidance Document 110-11 Stat-Drug Boxes in Assisted Living Facilities

Board of Pharmacy Regulation 18 VAC110-20-550 states:

18VAC110-20-550. Stat-drug box.

An additional drug box called a stat-drug box may be prepared by a pharmacy to provide for initiating therapy prior to the receipt of ordered drugs from the pharmacy. A stat-drug box shall be provided to those facilities in which only those persons licensed to administer are administering drugs...

The regulation is interpreted to allow stat-drug boxes to be provided for use in long term care facilities, including assisted living facilities that use medication aides to administer routine medications. However, stat-drug boxes may only be used under the condition that there is an order by a prescriber for any drug removed from the stat-drug box, and that only a licensed nurse, pharmacist, or prescriber be allowed to access or administer a drug from the stat-drug box. Medication aides are not "persons licensed to administer" and may not access or administer medications from a stat-drug box.